

son who shall apply for the same ; and the governor and council, from time to time, may make and establish such rules and orders for the direction of the treasurers in issuing their titlings or orders for warrants, and for the conduct of the examiner-general and the registers in their respective offices, and for the behaviour of surveyors, as they shall think proper, and such rules and orders shall be observed by the said officers respectively ; and if any dispute shall arise concerning the validity of surveys or the grant of lands, the same shall be heard and determined by the chancellor, as to all warrants or surveys heretofore granted or made, agreeable to the former rules of the land office, and as to all warrants and surveys hereafter to be issued or executed, according to such rules and orders as shall be established by the governor and the council.

The time has been further extended by several acts.

By 1795, ch. 61, the governor and council shall cause to be transmitted to the register of the land office, and to the examiner for the eastern shore, certified copies of such rules and orders as are or may be established for the direction and government of land offices, and for the conduct of the treasurer, &c. to be recorded by the said officers, and to be subject to inspection.

By 1795, ch. 61, sec. 5, the governor and council were directed to appoint a judge of the land office for the eastern shore, to hear and determine all disputes concerning the grant of lands, &c. in the same manner as the chancellor on the western shore ; and by sec. 6, of the same act, an appeal is given from his determination to the chancellor, or judge of the land office.

SEC. 7. *And be it enacted*, That the governor, with the advice of the council, be authorized to appoint and commission one fit and proper person, (who shall reside at Annapolis,) to be examiner-general, who shall examine, and pass or reject, any certificate delivered to him, agreeable to the former or future rules and directions, as the case may be ; and in case of refusal, death, resignation or disqualification, of any person appointed examiner-general, the governor and council may appoint another in his place ; and any person appointed shall, before he acts in his office, take the oath to the government, and an oath to execute his office diligently and faithfully, without favour, affection, partiality or prejudice.

Governor to
appoint an
examiner,
&c.

By 1795, ch. 61, sec. 3, the governor and council were directed to appoint an examiner for the eastern shore.

SEC. 8. *And be it enacted*, That a preference shall be given to those who have, before the first day of December, seventeen hundred and eighty-one, made, or may, after the first day of February, seventeen hundred and eighty-two, make the first application for warrants, (in proper hours for the transaction of public business ;) provided, on application heretofore made, warrants shall be obtained on or before the first day of July next ; and no warrant of escheat shall be good, unless where the owner hath died or shall die intestate, seized in fee simple, and

To whom
preference
is to be
given, &c.